THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The construction of building of Regional Staff Training Institute (Technical) at Bhubaneshwar is progressing satisfactorily. The technical area has been taken over for installation of equipments. The Construction of staff quarters and hostel has also been completed.

(c) and (d): The project is expected to be completed by the end of the current financial year. The estimated capital cost of the project is Rs. 1202.63 lakhs. An amount of Rs. 706.39 lakhs has been sanctioned towards civil works.

Extent of Authority of Branch Managers of State Bank of Indore

1200. SHRI GOVINDRAJ MIRI:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of authority given to the Branch Managers of the State Bank of Indore in Delhi for discounting cheques branch-wise on the spot encashment of local cheques under local DBP heads;

(b) whether any violation of the said authority in the Delhi Branches of the State Bank of Indore have come to the notice of the auditors/bank management during the last three years indicating the names of the Branch Managers and the extent of violation;

(c) the action taken against the concerned Branch Managers for misconduct; and

(d) if no action has been taken against the erring officers, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) State Bank of Indore have reported that all the branch managers of the bank have been delegated authority for purchase of cheques/local cheques as per their grades. The details of power of the branch managers in Delhi are given below:

Names of branches	Discretionary powers vested BMs for purchase of cheque/ local cheque (Rs. in lacs)	
	Corporate customer	non-corporate customer
Industrial Finance Branch(AGM)	100.00	35.00
Con. Cir.. New Delhi (SM-IV)	6.00	5.00
Green Park (SM-IV)	6.00	5.00
Chandni Chowk (MMGS-III)	1.00	1.00
Janakpuri (MMGS-III)	1.00	1.00
Greater Kailash-II (MMGS-III)	1.00	1.00
Rajouri Garden (MMGS-III)	1.00	1.00

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Establishment of Infrastructure Development Finance Company

1201. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had proposed establishment of the Infrastructure Development Finance Company to accelerate infrastructure development programme;

(b) if so, the detail of the steps taken to establish IDFC and its present status;

(c) details of technical and administrative hurdles in establishment of IDFC and tentative time frame/schedule for operationalising IDFC; and

(d) details of tentative targets set for IDFC for the current years with State/ wise break?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir, In the budget speech for 1996-97, it has been proposed to establish an

Infrastructure Development Finance Company (1DFC).

(b) to (d) As a follow up of the budget announcement a Working Group under the Chairmanship of the then Secretary (Banking) was constituted by the Reserve Bank of India to work out the modalities for setting up of the IDFC. Further, consequential steps for setting up the IDFC are being taken. Business plans and targets will be determinal by the IDFC after it has been set up and operationalised.

Percentage of NPA to Total Assets

1202. DR. B.B. DUTTA. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the non-performing assets as percentage of total assets of nationalised banks during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the reasons for high percentage of non-performing assets of certain banks; and

(c) how Government propose to improve this situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a): The percentage of non-performing assets to total advances of nationalised banks during 1993-94. 1994-95 and .1995-96 has been 25.84, 19.98 and 18.22 respectively.

(b) and (c): The most important reasons for high percentage of NPAs are growing industrial sickness, risks involved in credit lendings, wilful defaults, internal and external factors which are beyond the control of the borrowers protracted litigation and inadequate and pre-disbursement appraisal and post-disbursement supervision. In order to bring down the percentage banks have been advised to evolve loan/recovery policies and set up recovery cells at Head Offices/Zonal Offices/Regional Offices. Recovery targets are also required to be fixed for branches and monitored at frequent intervals by their officers including Chairman or Managing Directors/Executive Directors. Banks are being advisd to improve their credit appraisal and credit supervision machineries. Debt Recovery Tribunals have been set up at Jaipur, Delhi Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Calcutta and Madras and one Appellate Tribunal has been set up at Bombay to settle disputed dues of banks expeditiously

Proposal to increase Joint Venture and Code Sharing Foreign Airlines

1203. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase joint venture and code sharing with foreign airlines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) With a .view of increase its market presence, Air India is continuously exploring the possibility of expanding its Code-Share operation in co-operation with European, American and South East Asian Carriers. Such Code-Share/Joint Venture arrangements are already operative with Scandinavian Airline System, United Airlines, Kuwait Airlines, Malaysian Airlines, Gulf Air and Air Mauritius.

Accumulated Airport charges to be paid by Private Airlines

1204. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount private airlines owe to Government by way of airport charges;

(b) in what way Government propose to recover this amount;

(c) whether the private airlines have also violated maintenance requirements; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL